



HR0581

LRB099 12724 MST 36531 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Ed Hightower on the
4 occasion of his retirement as Superintendent of Edwardsville
5 Community Unit School District 7; and

6 WHEREAS, Ed Hightower joined District 7 in 1996, and during
7 his tenure, the district has grown from 5,000 students to over
8 7,000 and has developed into one of the top school districts in
9 the State of Illinois, academically, athletically, and in the
10 performing arts; and

11 WHEREAS, Ed Hightower has received numerous awards,
12 including the Illinois Distinguished Principals Award in 1989,
13 the Who's Who of American Educators in 1992, the Illinois
14 Principal of the Year Award in 1993, the National Distinguished
15 Principals Award in 1993, the Elijah P. Lovejoy Human Rights
16 Award in 1990, the Illinois Jaycees 10 Outstanding Young
17 Persons Award in 1990, and the Trails West Distinguished
18 Citizen of the Year award in 2007; he was named to the Southern
19 Illinois University Edwardsville Alumni Hall of Fame in 2012;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Ed Hightower has been a Division I basketball
22 referee for 36 years; he has officiated in 12 NCAA Final Four

1 tournaments, represented the United States at the 1990 World
2 Championship of Basketball held in South America, been selected
3 as the "Neutral" basketball official for the European
4 Basketball Championship held in Munich, Germany in 1993,
5 represented the United States at the Goodwill Games held in St.
6 Petersburg, Russia in 1994, and represented the United States
7 at the Goodwill Games in New York in 1998; he was inducted into
8 the St. Louis Sports Hall of Fame in 2014, named one of the top
9 100 St. Louis area athletes of the century in 1999, inducted
10 into the Illinois Basketball Association Coaches Hall of Fame
11 in 1998, named National Association of Sports Officials Gold
12 Whistle Award winner in 1995, awarded the Missouri Athletic
13 Club Carol O. Bauer Award in 1994, and named the Naismith
14 College Official of the Year in 1992; and

15 WHEREAS, Ed Hightower is a current Trustee on the Lewis and
16 Clark Community College Board of Trustees with over 20 years of
17 service; he served on the Southern Illinois University Board of
18 Trustees for 12 years, facilitating SIUE's becoming a NCAA
19 Division I sports program; he was also on the St. Anthony
20 Hospital Board for 18 years; he is a member of the Edwardsville
21 Rotary Club; and

22 WHEREAS, Ed Hightower has a bachelor's degree, master's
23 degree, and specialist degree from Southern Illinois
24 University Edwardsville; he has a doctorate in education

1 administration from St. Louis University; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
3 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
4 congratulate Ed Hightower on his retirement as Superintendent
5 of Edwardsville Community Unit School District 7 and we wish
6 him the best in all his future endeavors; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to Ed Hightower as an expression of our esteem and
9 respect.